

Fact Sheet
June 2001

STRINGFELLOW SUPERFUND SITE



PRELIMINARY PERCHLORATE RESULTS

*It is DTSC's
mission to protect
public health
and the
environment
from
harmful exposure
to hazardous
substances.*

State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency



The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has prepared this fact sheet to announce the recent preliminary results of perchlorate analyses conducted for the Stringfellow Superfund project, in Glen Avon, CA. Stringfellow is a closed hazardous waste site that received 35 million gallons of hazardous waste from 1956 to 1972. It is located in Pyrite Canyon, three-quarters of a mile north of Highway 60 at the Pyrite off-ramp.

Perchlorate

Perchlorate is a salt, most commonly ammonium perchlorate, which is used in solid fuel rockets, matches and other industrial applications. When dissolved in groundwater, the perchlorate ion moves with the water. The perchlorate ion consists of 4 oxygen atoms and 1 chlorine atom. It is used because it provides the oxygen that the rocket or the match needs to burn. Over the last several years new analytical techniques have been developed which have permitted the detection of perchlorate in groundwater at levels as low as 4 parts per billion (ppb). As a result, perchlorate has been detected in many groundwater wells in northern and southern California, Lake Mead, and the Colorado River. The primary source of all of this contamination is from companies that manufactured rockets or solid rocket fuel.

Community Availability Session

DTSC staff will be available to answer questions and provide additional information on a drop-in basis on **Tuesday, June 19, 2001, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, at the Stringfellow Information Center, 9415 Mission Blvd., Suite D, Glen Avon, CA.

Where was it found?

There is a well-documented plume of solvent-contaminated groundwater migrating from the Stringfellow site as shown in grey on the attached map. Recent preliminary sample results indicate that this plume also contains perchlorate. Because perchlorate moves through groundwater at a faster rate than the solvent, the perchlorate may extend somewhat beyond the boundaries of the known solvent plume. DTSC will conduct a sampling program of any private water supply wells within the bold dotted line, on the attached map, to determine the extent of the perchlorate contamination. This will include wells that are currently

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

routinely sampled. Currently, there are no known operating private drinking water wells in this area.

How much was found?

The recent preliminary results show the highest perchlorate level in the groundwater beneath the community to be 81 ppb in the north end of the plume near Highway 60. The highest level at the south end of the plume is 31 ppb.

Does this discovery present a risk to the community?

The primary route of human exposure to perchlorate is through drinking water being drawn from a contaminated source. As stated previously, there are no known operating private drinking water wells within the area of the plume which contains perchlorate. All homes within the dotted line on the attached map were given the option, in 1986, of connecting to the Jurupa Community Service District water system which is not affected by local groundwater. If there are any homes that are within this area that are not connected, a connection will be provided free of charge. If you receive a water bill and you live within the area outlined by the dotted line on the attached map, you are hooked up to the municipal water system and do not need to contact DTSC. If you do not receive a water bill and you live within this area, please contact DTSC at one of the numbers listed at the end of this fact sheet.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) sets California's drinking water standards for water systems. While no formal standard has been set for perchlorate, DHS recommends that customers be notified when the level of perchlorates exceeds 18 ppb. At 40 ppb, DHS recommends to the water supplier that the affected well be taken out of service. This indicates that while there is no immediate known health risk at the 40 ppb level, action should be taken to mitigate the contamination. Perchlorate is not considered to be a cancer-causing compound. Concentrations of perchlorate in drinking water greater than 12,000 ppb have been shown to have an impact on the thyroid gland.

What will be done?

Based on the results of the private wells sampled and more intensive follow up sampling over the next weeks and months, DTSC will develop a plan to contain and remediate the perchlorate plume.

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For More Information or if You Have a Well in the Affected Area

DTSC CONTACTS:

- If you would like to leave a message on the local Stringfellow hotline, please call (909) 782-4267, and a DTSC staff member will get back to you.
- If you would like to talk directly to a DTSC staff member, please contact Roman Racca, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, phone (916) 445-9543, fax (916) 323-3392, E-mail: rracca@dtsc.ca.gov

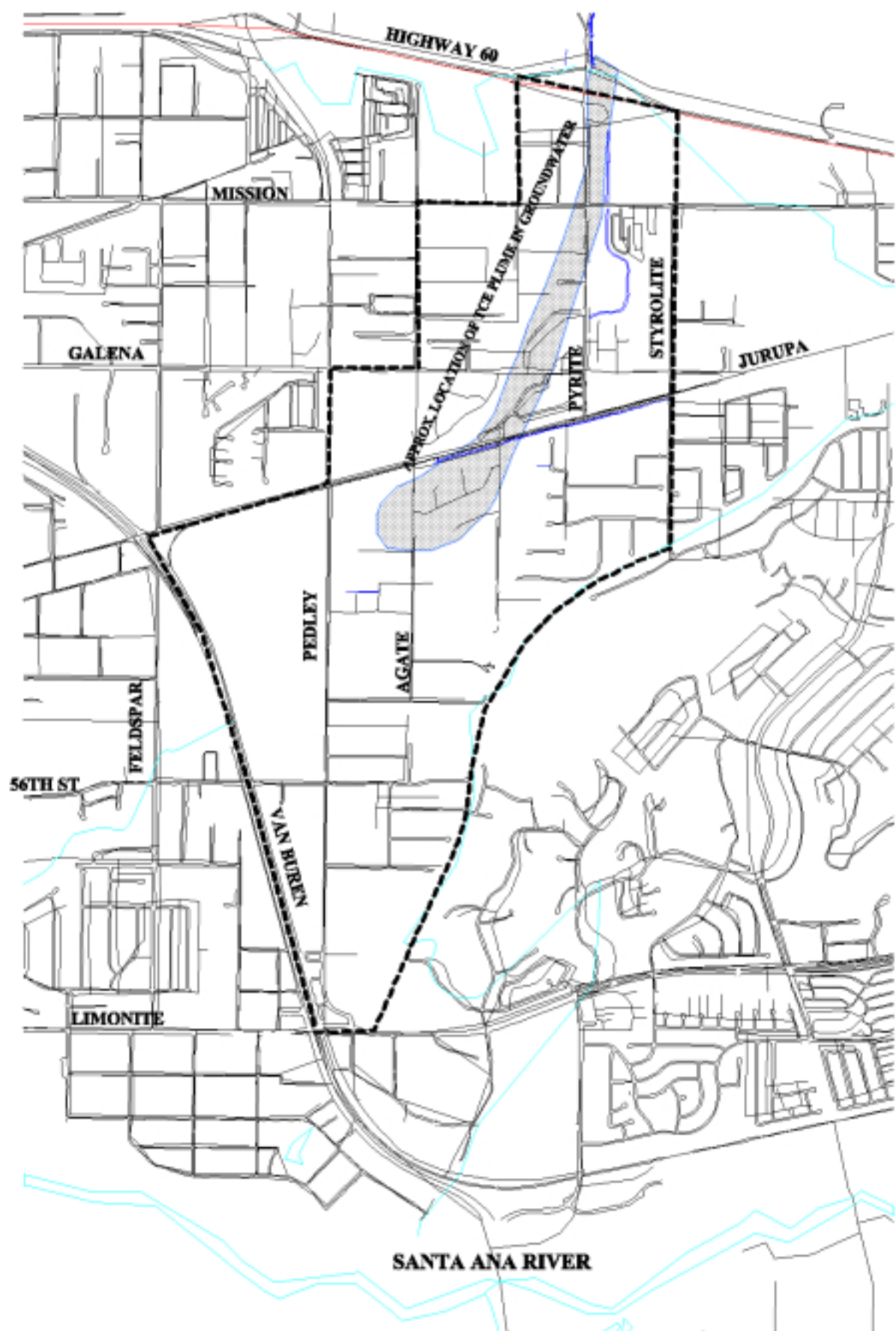
Notice to the Hearing Impaired

You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Roman Racca at (916) 445-9543 regarding the Stringfellow Superfund site.

Meeting Accessibility

For information on accessibility and to request reasonable accommodations, please call **Roman Racca, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, (916) 445-9543.**

Si usted desea mas informacion en espanol por favor llame al numero 916-322-4896.



STRINGFELLOW UPDATE



Roman Racca
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

Stringfellow Superfund Site

☐ Please keep me on the mailing list to receive all future notices related to this site.
☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.

Name: _____
Affiliation (optional): _____
Address: _____
Telephone (optional): _____
Fax: _____
E-Mail: _____
Comments: _____

Please mail your questionnaire and/or mailing list information to: Roman Racca, Department of Toxic Substances Control, P.O. Box 806, Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

Please note: while mailing lists are solely for DTSC use, they are considered public records and may be subjected to release upon request.